



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Jacksonville District

# NEWS RELEASE

Release No.: 08-39

For Release: June 13, 2008

P.O. Box 4970 Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Contact: Nancy Sticht

Phone: 904-232-1667

Email: Nancy.J.Sticht@usace.army.mil

FAX: 904-232-2237

---

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

---

## **Demolition scheduled on former Pinecastle Jeep Range**

Jacksonville, Fla. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District announced today that several more World War II-era munitions have been recovered on the former Pinecastle Jeep Range site, a formerly used defense site in Orlando.

The munitions, two 2.36-inch rockets, two 37-mm projectiles, one 70-mm projectile and one 20-mm projectile were recovered on the Odyssey Middle School property. Removal by detonation, similar to demolitions that have taken place in the past several months, will occur on Friday, June 13 between 1 and 4 p.m. Engineering controls will be used to ensure safety and limit the noise and debris from the blast. This removal action poses no danger to people in the area.

The work currently under way at Odyssey Middle School is a follow up to investigations and munitions removal conducted between November 2007 and January 2008. In accordance with recorded military use of the site, the Corps and its contractors expected and sought to recover 4-pound or larger munitions from that property. Analysis of the type and size of munitions actually recovered during the initial work led the Corps to recommend further investigations and potential removal of munitions smaller than a 4-pound incendiary. This work began June 2, after school was dismissed for the summer, and will be completed by July 13.

“The school grounds have been and continue to be safe for typical use by students and staff,” said project manager Wandell Carlton. “While we can never guarantee that the property will be 100 percent clear of munitions, the Corps is taking action to remove munitions to detectable levels. We will



soon install a permanent fence between the school and the adjacent undeveloped property, and we will recommend additional safety measures to the school administration in the event of future planned construction on site.”

Safety is always the Corps’ top priority. Should anyone encounter or suspect they have encountered munitions, it is vitally important that they follow the simple “3 Rs” of explosives safety: **Recognize** the item may be dangerous; **Retreat** and do not touch it; **Report** its location to the local Sheriff’s Office immediately.

On behalf of the Department of Defense, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers cleans up sites that were formerly used by the military. In 1943, the U.S. government leased 12,483 acres of land in Orlando (Orange County) as an off-post site of the Pinecastle Army Airfield, for use as a gunnery and demonstration range. The site was declared surplus property and all leases were terminated by December 1947.

For more information about the former Pinecastle Jeep Range, please visit our Web site at [www.saj.usace.army.mil](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil) and click on the Pinecastle Jeep Range link, or contact the Corporate Communication Office at 904-232-1667 or 1-800-291-9413.

# # #